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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MC-MASTER UNIVERSITY [CA/CA]; Office Of Research Contracts & Intellectual Property, 280 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4L8 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LI, Yingfu [CA/CA]; 87 Pirie Drive, Dundas, Ontario L9H 6Y2 (CA). NUTIU, Razvan [RO/CA]; 1010-1760 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario L8S 1H2 (CA).

(74) Agent: MCGUINNESS, Ursula; Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP, Suite 560-120 King Street West, P.O. Box 1045, LCD 1, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3R4 (CA).

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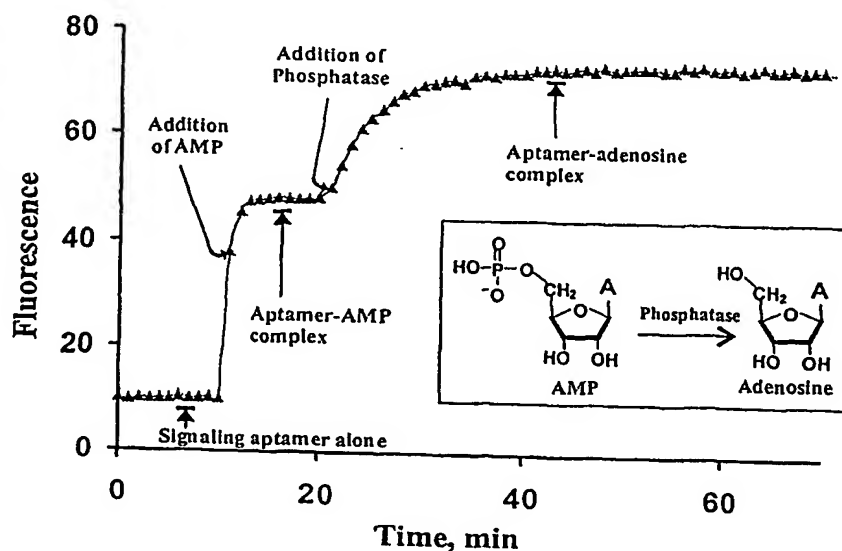
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR MONITORING REACTIONS IN REAL TIME



(57) Abstract: Methods for monitoring chemical reactions in real time are provided. The methods involve the use of a signaling aptamer that has a different affinity for the substrate and the product of the chemical reaction. The conversion from substrate to product is detected as a change in signal, in particular a change in fluorescent signal. The methods of the present invention are also useful to measure enzyme activity and to screen for enzyme inhibitors.